

REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 4, 2004 has been received and carefully considered. Claims 1, 9-11, 21 and 43 have been amended, claim 2 has been canceled and claims 44 and 45 have been added. Support for the amendments to the claims and the addition of new claims 44 and 45 may be found in the specification and figures as originally filed. Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections in the present application therefore is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

Interview of November 1, 2004

At the outset, the undersigned notes with appreciation the courtesies extended by the Examiner during the telephonic interview conducted on November 1, 2004. In view of the proposed amendments and remarks provided by the Applicant's representative with regard to the independent claims, the Examiner agreed to withdraw the current rejections of the claims. The Examiner also indicated that he would conduct another prior art search in view of the proposed amendments and remarks.

Indefinite Rejection of Claim 43

At page 4 of the Office Action, claim 43 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Applicant has amended claim 43 consistent with the Examiner's comments. Withdrawal of this rejection therefore is respectfully requested.

Obviousness Rejection of Claims 1-24 and 26-43

At page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-24 and 26-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thorner (U.S. Patent No. 6,232,932). This rejection is respectfully traversed with amendment.

Claim 1, from which claims 3-8 and 43-45 depend, has been amended to recite, in part, the limitations of partitioning a frame buffer into a first portion and a second portion associated with a first virtual display and a second virtual display, wherein a space allocated to at least the first portion is based on one or more parameters of at least the first virtual display. Support for this amendment may be found in the specification and figures as originally filed. The Applicant respectfully submits that Thorner fails to disclose or suggest at least these limitations. Moreover,

the Office Action does not specifically address how Thorner teaches these limitations. Although similar limitations are recited by claims 15-17, which depend from claim 9, the Office Action improperly concludes that “[c]laims 9-22 are similar in scope to claims 1-8 and thus are rejected under a similar rational” and consequently provides no support for its rejection of claims 15-17 in view of Thorner. *Office Action*, p. 3. The Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the Office Action fails to establish that Thorner discloses or suggests each and every limitation of claim 1, as well as each and every limitation of claims 3-8 and 43-45 at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1. Moreover, these claims recite additional limitations neither disclosed nor suggested by Thorner.

Claim 9, from which claims 10-22 depend, recites, in part, the limitations of providing a first address associated with a first frame buffer portion, *wherein the first address is reported as an address of a first frame buffer associated with a first display device* and providing a second address associated with a second frame buffer portion, *wherein the second address is reported as an address of a second frame buffer associated with a second display device*. Claim 30, from which claims 31-42 depend, recites similar limitations. The Applicant respectfully submits that Thorner neither discloses nor suggests these limitations. Moreover, as noted above, the Office Action rejected claims 9-22 based on its rejection of claims 1-8. However, as none of claims 1-8 recite the above-identified limitations of claim 9 or 30, the Office Action consequently fails to establish specifically how Thorner purportedly discloses or suggests these limitations. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action fails to establish that Thorner discloses or suggests each and every limitation of claim 9 and 30, as well as each and every limitation of claims 10-22 and 31-42 at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 9.

Moreover, claims 10-22 and 31-42 recite additional limitations neither disclosed nor suggested by Thorner. For example, claims 17 and 38 recite the limitations of wherein partitioning a frame buffer includes determining a space to assign to a portion of the frame buffer dependent on a color depth assigned to each of the virtual displays. As noted above, the Office Action fails to establish that Thorner discloses or suggests at least these limitations. As another example, claim 22 recites the limitations of wherein reporting a number of virtual displays includes providing the number of virtual displays to an operating system as the number of display devices in a multiple display configuration. The Office Action also fails to establish how Thorner discloses or suggest at least these limitations. In the event that the Examiner continues

to reject claims 9-22 and 30-42 in view of Thorner, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner specifically describe how Thorner teaches the above-identified limitations of claims 9 and 30.

Claim 23, from which claims 24 and 26-29 depend, recites, in part, the limitations of memory having an input/output buffer coupled to an input/output buffer of a data processor, said memory having a program of instructions including a display driver to report a multiple display configuration, wherein said multiple display configuration includes support for a plurality of virtual displays, partition a frame buffer into a plurality of frame buffer portions and assign a different virtual display of the plurality of virtual displays to each of the frame buffer portions of the plurality of frame buffer portions. The Applicant respectfully submits that Thorner fails to disclose or suggest a memory having a program of instructions that include a display driver to report a multiple display configuration. The Applicant also submits that Thorner further fails to disclose or submit the limitations of wherein the display driver is further to partition the frame buffer into the plurality of frame buffer portions or to assign a different virtual display to each of the frame buffer portions. The Office Action fails to specifically address how Thorner discloses or suggests at least these limitations. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Office Action fails to establish that Thorner discloses or suggests each and every limitation of claim 23, as well as each and every limitation of claims 24 and 26-29 at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 23. In the event that the Examiner continues to reject claims 23, 24 and 26-29 in view of Thorner, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner specifically describe how Thorner teaches the above-identified limitations of claim 23.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the anticipation rejection of claims 1-24 and 26-43 is improper at this time and withdrawal of this rejection therefore is respectfully requested.

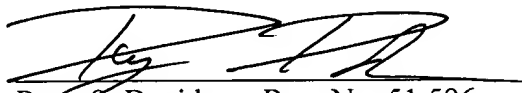
Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-0441.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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